

Garrisons Lake

85.9 acres

Cheswold

Largemouth bass are not abundant here but they are big – many bass were over 15 inches and growth was above average for Delaware ponds. The very shallow depth of the pond often concentrates bass in the part of the pond closest to Route 13 where the depth is greatest. Anglers willing to carefully work the weed beds were often rewarded with good-size bass. Numerous scattered tree stumps and the shallow depth make this pond difficult to fish for unfamiliar anglers. It is best to abide by the no-wake speed limit when motoring through the pond to avoid damage to outboards.

Bluegill were abundant in this pond with two main size groups: those around 4½ inches and those near 7 inches. Black crappie were also abundant, but few exceeded 10 inches. Pumpkinseed sunfish and chain pickerel were present in lesser numbers.

Dredging of this pond was conducted in 2006 to deepen a portion of the lower pond (adjacent to Route 13). This should result in better habitat for bass, black crappie, and other sunfish species.

A fish ladder was installed during 1999 to allow river herring access to historical freshwater spawning locations upstream. The ladder has also been adapted to promote upstream movement of American eel, which spawn in the Atlantic Ocean near Bermuda, and grow to adulthood in freshwater areas along the East Coast.

VEGETATION

Historically, high turbidity (muddiness) has limited vegetation in this pond to large expanses of spatterdock (called bull lily by many). However, elodea, a rooted plant which remains below the water surface, has occasionally become so abundant that treatment is required. Generally however, vegetation is dominated by spatterdock and floating rafts of duckweed, neither of which impedes angling.

SPECIAL CONDITIONS

It is unlawful to fish within 10 feet of the entrance or exit of the fish ladder or to remove fish from any ladder between March 15 and May 30. Navigation is difficult in this pond due to the shallow water depth and numerous tree stumps just below the water surface over much of the pond.

Shoreline angling is available around the boat access area in the area adjacent to the northern parking lot.

GARRISONS LAKE



Surface acres	95.9
Acre-feet	114.63
Maximum depth	4.0'
Mean depth	1.3'

660'

